



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

Division of Workers' Compensation - Medical Fee Dispute Resolution (MS-48)

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MEDICAL FEE DISPUTE RESOLUTION FINDINGS AND DECISION

GENERAL INFORMATION

Requestor Name

AHMED KHALIFA, MD

Respondent Name

WAUSAU UNDERWRITERS INSURANCE

MFDR Tracking Number

M4-17-0448-01

Carrier's Austin Representative

Box Number 01

MFDR Date Received

OCTOBER 18, 2016

REQUESTOR'S POSITION SUMMARY

Requestor's Position Summary: "The carrier has not paid this claim in accordance and compliance with TDI-DWC Rule 133 and 134."

Amount in Dispute: \$1,270.28

RESPONDENT'S POSITION SUMMARY

Respondent's Position Summary: "HCPCS A4556 was denied as bundled or non-covered procedure based on Medicare guidelines; no separate payment allowed."

Response Submitted By: Liberty Mutual Insurance

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Dates of Service	Disputed Services	Amount In Dispute	Amount Due
November 11, 2015	CPT Code 99204 New Patient Office Visit	\$247.70	\$0.00
	CPT Code 95886 (X4) Needle EMG	\$542.32	\$0.00
	CPT Code 95913 Nerve Conduction Studies	\$455.26	\$0.00
	HCPCS Code A4556 Electrodes	\$25.00	\$0.00
TOTAL		\$1,270.28	\$0.00

FINDINGS AND DECISION

This medical fee dispute is decided pursuant to Texas Labor Code §413.031 and all applicable, adopted rules of the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation.

Background

1. 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307 sets out the procedures for resolving medical fee disputes.
2. 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.203, effective March 1, 2008, sets the reimbursement guidelines for the disputed service.
3. The services in dispute were reduced / denied by the respondent with the following reason code:
 - Z710-The charge for this procedure exceeds the fee schedule allowance.
 - P300-Charge exceeds fee schedule/maximum allowable or contracted/legislated fee arrangement.
 - B291-This is a bundled or non covered procedure based on Medicare guidelines; no separate payment allowed.

Issues

1. Is the requestor entitled to additional reimbursement for CPT code 99204, 95886 and 95913?
2. Is the benefit for HCPCS code A4556 included in the benefit of another service billed on the disputed date? Is the requestor entitled to reimbursement for HCPCS code A4556?

Findings

1. Per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.203(a)(5), "Medicare payment policies" when used in this section, shall mean reimbursement methodologies, models, and values or weights including its coding, billing, and reporting payment policies as set forth in the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) payment policies specific to Medicare."

A review of the submitted explanation of benefits, finds that the respondent issued payment of \$1,235.78 for codes 99204, 95886 and 95913 with check number 0029484529. The fee guidelines for professional services are found in 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.203.

Per 28 Texas Administrative Code §134.203(c)(1)(2),

To determine the MAR for professional services, system participants shall apply the Medicare payment policies with minimal modifications.

(1) For service categories of Evaluation & Management, General Medicine, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Radiology, Pathology, Anesthesia, and Surgery when performed in an office setting, the established conversion factor to be applied is \$52.83. For Surgery when performed in a facility setting, the established conversion factor to be applied is \$66.32.

(2) The conversion factors listed in paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be the conversion factors for calendar year 2008. Subsequent year's conversion factors shall be determined by applying the annual percentage adjustment of the Medicare Economic Index (MEI) to the previous year's conversion factors, and shall be effective January 1st of the new calendar year. The following hypothetical example illustrates this annual adjustment activity if the Division had been using this MEI annual percentage adjustment: The 2006 Division conversion factor of \$50.83 (with the exception of surgery) would have been multiplied by the 2007 MEI annual percentage increase of 2.1 percent, resulting in the \$51.90 (with the exception of surgery) Division conversion factor in 2007.

To determine the MAR the following formula is used: (DWC Conversion Factor/Medicare Conversion Factor) X Participating Amount = Maximum Allowable Reimbursement (MAR).

The 2016 DWC conversion factor for this service is 58.62.

The Medicare Conversion Factor is 35.8043.

Review of Box 32 on the CMS-1500 the services were rendered in zip code 79925, which is located in El Paso, Texas. Therefore, the Medicare participating amount will be based on the reimbursement for "Rest of Texas".

Using the above formula, the Division finds the following:

Code	Medicare Participating Amount	MAR	Carrier Paid	Total Due
99204	\$159.60	\$249.61 or less billed amount	\$247.70, billed amount	\$0.00
95886(X4)	\$87.29	\$136.52 X 4 = \$546.08 or less billed amount	\$542.32, billed amount	\$0.00
95913	\$285.02	\$445.76	\$445.76	\$0.00

2. HCPCS code A4556 is defined as "Electrodes (e.g., apnea monitor), per pair." The respondent denied reimbursement for HCPCS code A4556 based upon reason code "B291." Per Medicare guidelines, Transmittal B-03-020, effective February 28, 2003 if Durable Medical Equipment Prosthetics Orthotics and Supplies (DMEPOS) HCPCS codes are incidental to the physician service, it is not separately payable. A review of the submitted documentation does not support a separate service to support billing HCPCS code A4556. As a result, reimbursement is not recommended.

Conclusion

For the reasons stated above, the Division finds that the requestor has not established that additional reimbursement is due.

ORDER

Based upon the documentation submitted by the parties and in accordance with the provisions of Texas Labor Code §413.031, the Division has determined that the requestor is entitled to \$0.00 reimbursement for the disputed services.

Authorized Signature

_____	_____	11/10/2016
Signature	Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Officer	Date

YOUR RIGHT TO APPEAL

Either party to this medical fee dispute has a right to seek review of this decision in accordance with 28 Texas Administrative Code §133.307, 37 *Texas Register* 3833, applicable to disputes filed on or after June 1, 2012.

A party seeking review must submit a **Request to Schedule a Benefit Review Conference to Appeal a Medical Fee Dispute Decision** (form **DWC045M**) in accordance with the instructions on the form. The request must be received by the Division within **twenty** days of your receipt of this decision. The request may be faxed, mailed or personally delivered to the Division using the contact information listed on the form or to the field office handling the claim.

The party seeking review of the MFDR decision shall deliver a copy of the request to all other parties involved in the dispute at the same time the request is filed with the Division. **Please include a copy of the *Medical Fee Dispute Resolution Findings and Decision*** together with any other required information specified in 28 Texas Administrative Code §141.1(d).

Si prefiere hablar con una persona en español acerca de ésta correspondencia, favor de llamar a 512-804-4812.